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ON AVESTA *f* = ORIGINAL *pv*.

It is generally accepted that in the word Av. *āfəntəm* 'aquosum,' *āfəntō* 'aquosi,' the *f* is sprung from orig. *pv*—that Av. *āfənt-* stands for orig. **āpvant-*. (So Justi, *Handbuch der Zendsprache* s. v. compares Skt. *āpavant-*, see PWb. s. v. on the *a* between *p* and *v*, also Justi, p. 362, §57; see especially Bartholomae, *Handbuch der altiranischen Dialekte*, §89b; Brugmann, *Grundriss der vergl. Grammatik*, §473, §159.) No other example for the rule seems to have been given; see Bartholomae, loc. cit.; but Justi, §57 *kaofa-* and *sifaṭ*. Two instances, however, may perhaps now be suggested as falling under this head; these will support the law, and the forms themselves will thus be clearly explained.

The first instance to be added is in Ys. 57. 29 *āfəntē*. The form is 3 pl. pres. mid. (pass.) from *✓āp-*, *ap-* 'to attain' according to the (Skt.) VIIIth Conjugation, i. e. **āp-vantē*; cf. Av. *kərənvanṭe*. —Ys. 57. 29 will thus be rendered: 'Who (i. e. the horses of Sraosha) overtake all those whom they pursue from behind, but they themselves are never overtaken from behind.'

The second suggestion is from Ys. 57. 17 to consider the adjective *hušhvafa* 'slumbering' nom. sg. = orig. **sušvapvan-* or **sušvapvant-* (*✓svap-* 'to sleep') according as *van-* or *vant-* stem. The Av. *hu-* (*su-*) looks like the prefix *su-* 'well,' but as Professor Geldner kindly writes me, it may also be a reduplication (cf. Skt. pf. *sušvāpa*) as *ci-* in Skt. *cikivān-* 'wise' (also adjective). The form nom. sg. *hušhvafa* is like *ašava* if from *van-* stem, or like *raēva*, *amava*, etc., if from *vant-* stem.

The law of phonetic change in Av. may be regularly explained thus: the *v* must have had its voiceless spirant value (Germ. *v*, Eng. *f*) and spirantized the preceding *p*, cf. Av. *tv* (*v-* vocalic) beside Av. *ṽw* (*v-* spirant). The combination *fv* (*fw* voiceless = phonetically *ff*) was no longer tolerated, but according to the regular Av. law, avoiding the repetition of the same sound, was reduced to *f*. Hence orig. *pv* = Av. **fv* (*fw* voiceless = phonetically *ff*) = *f*.

A. V. WILLIAMS JACKSON.